



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,208	09/30/2003	Udo Klein	16104-005001 / 2003P00582	9931
32864 7590 05/02/2007 FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C. PO BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			EXAMINER WATT, CHRIS A	
			ART UNIT 2174	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,208

Applicant(s)

KLEIN ET AL.

Examiner

Chris Watt

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/7/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 3/27/2007.
2. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 13 are independent claims. In the amendment, no claims were added, cancelled or amended. This action is made Final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Applicant's arguments, with respect to Inaki and Glaser in After-Final Amendment, pages 3-4, filed 3/27/2007, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the Final rejection dated 2/7/2007 has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of Final rejection is made in view of applicant's amendment to claims 1 and 13 filed 10/23/2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inaki ("Inaki" US Patent No. 5,230,062) in view of Glaser et al. ("Glaser" US Patent No. 5,450,538) and Wallack ("Wallack" US Patent No. 6,055,550).

Regarding independent claim 1, Inaki teaches a method of displaying (i.e. col. 1 line 54 et seq. of Inaki : " It is a further object of the invention to provide a data processing apparatus, in which the defined contents can be confirmed easily by displaying a predetermined character according to the character type in a defined display area in the set display size") a user input area (i.e. col. 13 line 21 et seq. of

Inaki : " Thereby, the data input familiar to the user is available"), the method comprising: displaying a user input area (i.e. col. 5 line 31 et seq. of Inaki : " The record generating unit P53 displays input data from the key-board 11 in the field input area (defining display area) of the card generated by the card generating unit P51"), wherein the user input area corresponds to a data field having a specified number of characters (i.e. col. 12 line 23 et seq. of Inaki : " the character data corresponding to the field") and has a size that indicates to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein representations of the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. col. 10 line 31 et seq. of Inaki : " At the same time, on the bottom of the display screen, there is shown that the input (defining) area has a capacity of 44 characters as "character field position definition: number of characters, the half-size, 44 characters" (calculated by the half-size) (in this case since the cursor size is set in the full-size, it corresponds to the full-size 22 characters)"), upon receipt of a user input (i.e. col. 3 line 43 et seq. of Inaki : " The key-board interface 12 identifies a pressed key, converting it into the control signal and data signal and sends to the CPU 1, which receives the signals to execute various functions") specifying a character to be included in the data field (i.e. col. 8 line 67 et seq. of Inaki : " When the cursor is moved, a character input field L1 is displayed on the bottom of the screen, then, the cursor may be moved to the field to be corrected and the right field data is inputted to the character input field L1 by the input unit 21 with the usual word processor touching"), displaying within the user input area a representation of the input character in a proportional font (i.e. col. 17 line 53 et seq. of Inaki : " the state of field definition is displayed in such a way and the character size and area are

Art Unit: 2174

clear at a glance"; col. 4 line 49 et seq. of Inaki : " accessing various files (document file, data file, dictionary file, font file, program file)"), adjusting based on a size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field, wherein the size of characters included in the data field includes a size of the input character (i.e. col. 7 line 15 et seq. of Inaki : " At the same time, there is shown on the bottom of the screen that the input (definition) area has a capacity of 30 characters (calculated in half-size) as "character field position definition: the number of characters half-size 30 characters""). Inaki does not disclose visual indication of the change in size or adjusting the size of the user input area based on the size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field.

Glaser teaches a user input area within a computer user interface (i.e. col. 2 line 10 et seq. of Glaser : " The system, in a preferred aspect, is adapted to receive user inputs for controlling the graphical user interface, which interface provides a document form display including at least one data field for text entry"), and that the input visually (i.e. col.2 line 2 et seq. of Glaser : " Preferably, this control capability would be provided in a visually apparent manner, indicating to the user that data fields can be expanded and suggesting the manner in which that expansion can be implemented") indicates (i.e. col. 5 line 66 et seq. of Glaser : " The size of the resizing rectangle 149 indicates to the user the change in size of the data entry field which is being expanded or contracted") to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations (i.e. col. 8 line 60 et seq. of Glaser : " and re-sizing means responsive to said pointer positioned at said predetermined location and to a re-sizing control input

from said cursor control device for dynamically changing the size of said data field during text entry to accommodate additional text entry into said database"), adjusting the size of the user input area (i.e. col. 2 line 37 et seq. of Glaser : "2 illustrates a menu-driven graphical user interface display generated in accordance with the present invention including a structured form document with data entry fields and associated data descriptors, wherein one of the data entry fields is expandable in response to a user control input"), displaying the adjusted user input area having a new size that visually indicates to the user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of a remaining number of the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. col. 2 line 22 et seq. of Glaser : " Advantageously, the system permits the customization of data input and output by enabling the user to exercise complete control over the size of the data field"; col. 2 line 17 et seq. of Glaser : " The system is responsive to a second control input from a user for conducting a resizing operation to vary the size of the data field"). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the adjustable and visual input area of Glaser with the user input area of Inaki to create the dynamic expansion of one or more fields in a computer generated form (col. 1 line 64 et seq. of Glaser).

Wallack teaches adjusting the size of the user input area based on the size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. steps 200 and 230 in FIG. 2 et seq. of Wallack). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine adjusting the size of user input as taught by Wallack into the user input area as taught by Inaki and modified by Glaser.

Said artisan would have been motivated to combine Wallack into Inaki in order to auto size the field according to textual data received in the fields in a computer-generated form (i.e. col. 2 line 23 et seq. of Wallack).

Regarding dependent claim 2, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user input area is displayed only when the user input area has focus (i.e. COLUMN APPOINT S70, col. 13 line 45 et seq. of Inaki: "area of defining position is appointed").

Regarding dependent claim 3, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user input area contains a character before the user input specifying the character is received (i.e. FIG. 13I et seq. of Inaki: "NNNN YEAR", "MM MONTH", "DD DAY", "NN HR.", "MM MIN.").

Regarding dependent claim 4, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user input area is empty when the input specifying the character is received (i.e. compare cursor between figures 13A and 13B et seq. of Inaki, see also col. 13 line 35 et seq. of Inaki: "wait condition of key input", "moving the cursor to a position where the time field is to be defined" and "inputting a ... suitable numeric character with a key"), and wherein the user input area size then is equal to the specified number of characters times a selected character width (i.e. CHECK HEAD CHARACTER SIZE S73, CHECK SIZE S74, see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the selected character width is an average

width of characters (i.e. S73, S74, et seq. of Inaki; see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size and compare field, also note cursor and font sizes in FIGS. 11K and 11Q of Inaki).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the size of the user input area after the specified character is displayed equals the width of the displayed character plus the remaining number of the specified number of characters times a selected character width (i.e. S73, S74 et seq. of Inaki; see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size and compare field, also note cursor and font sizes in FIGS. 11K and 11Q of Inaki).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the size of the user input area is adjusted after each character that is received (i.e. S73, S74 et seq. of Inaki; see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size, note return to step 1 after each "key input").

Regarding dependent claim 8, see the analysis of claim 1 above. Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting the size of the user input area differently (i.e. COMPARE WIDTHS S200 et seq. in Inaki) after receiving a second last character of the specified number of characters (i.e. col. 17 line 40 et seq. of Inaki: character before end mark "Δ", character in "NO" option from S199 of Inaki, previous to last character in step 22).

Regarding dependent claim 9, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 8, further comprising adjusting the user input area (i.e. COMPARE WIDTHS S200 in Inaki), after receiving the second last character (i.e. col. 17 line 40 et seq. of Inaki: character before "Δ" (end mark), character in "NO" option from S199 of Inaki, previous to last character in step 22), to equal a cumulative width of all characters displayed in the user input area plus a selected character width (i.e. BLOCK WIDTH = FIELD WIDTH branch from S200 et seq. of Inaki, see also CURSOR TYPE listing in FIG. 12 of Inaki).

Regarding dependent claim 10, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 9, wherein the selected character width is a maximum width of characters (i.e. BLOCK WIDTH = FIELD WIDTH branch from S200 et seq. of Inaki, see also CURSOR TYPE listing in FIG. 12 of Inaki especially QUADRUPLE FULL-SIZE and cursor size in FIGS. 11P and 11Q of Inaki).

Regarding dependent claim 11, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting the size of the user input area after receiving the specified number of characters, to equal a cumulative width of the characters displayed in the user input area (i.e. compare "2 CHARACTERS", "22 CHARACTERS" and "14 CHARACTERS" with active/highlighted input area in bottom right corner of FIGS. 13D, 13E and 13H et seq. of Inaki respectively).

Regarding dependent claim 12, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the method of claim 1, wherein a user input specifying a character to be removed from the data field is received (i.e. CANCEL KEY in FIG. 8 et seq. of Inaki, see

also col. 7 lines 23-24 of Inaki: "move the cursor in the reverse direction"), further comprising displaying the user input area without the removed character, the user input area having a size equal to a cumulative width of any characters displayed in the user input area plus the remaining number of the specified number of characters times a selected character width (i.e. compare "FURIKANA" field in FIGS 11K, 11N and 11O et seq. of Inaki: despite user input, or the lack thereof, the number of characters available from FIG. 11K remains constant).

Regarding independent claim 13, Inaki teaches a computer program product containing executable instructions for displaying (i.e. col. 1 line 54 et seq. of Inaki : " It is a further object of the invention to provide a data processing apparatus, in which the defined contents can be confirmed easily by displaying a predetermined character according to the character type in a defined display area in the set display size") a user input area (i.e. col. 13 line 21 et seq. of Inaki : " Thereby, the data input familiar to the user is available"), the instructions when executed causing a processor to display the user input area (i.e. col. 5 line 31 et seq. of Inaki : " The record generating unit P53 displays input data from the key-board 11 in the field input area (defining display area) of the card generated by the card generating unit P51"), wherein the user input area corresponds to a data field having a specified number of characters and has a size that indicates to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein representations of the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. col. 12 line 23 et seq. of Inaki : " the character data corresponding to the field"; col. 10 line 31 et seq. of Inaki : " At the same time, on the bottom of the display screen, there is shown that the input (defining)

area has a capacity of 44 characters as "character field position definition: number of characters, the half-size, 44 characters" (calculated by the half-size) (in this case since the cursor size is set in the full-size, it corresponds to the full-size 22 characters)"), upon receipt of a user input specifying a character to be included in the data field (i.e. col. 3 line 43 et seq. of Inaki : " The key-board interface 12 identifies a pressed key, converting it into the control signal and data signal and sends to the CPU 1, which receives the signals to execute various functions"), display within the user input area (i.e. col. 8 line 67 et seq. of Inaki : " When the cursor is moved, a character input field L1 is displayed on the bottom of the screen, then, the cursor may be moved to the field to be corrected and the right field data is inputted to the character input field L1 by the input unit 21 with the usual word processor touching") a representation of the input character (i.e. col. 13 line 22 et seq. of Inaki : " When data are inputted by changing the character size from the half-size to the full-size, the number of input characters is that of one half of the half-size and the input of them is impossible beyond that") in a proportional font (i.e. col. 17 line 53 et seq. of Inaki : " the state of field definition is displayed in such a way and the character size and area are clear at a glance"; col. 4 line 49 et seq. of Inaki : " accessing various files (document file, data file, dictionary file, font file, program file)"), adjust based on a size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field, wherein the size of characters included in the data field includes a size of the input character (i.e. col. 7 line 15 et seq. of Inaki : " At the same time, there is shown on the bottom of the screen that the input (definition) area has a capacity of 30 characters (calculated in half-size) as "character

field position definition: the number of characters half-size 30 characters""). Inaki does not disclose visual indication of the change in size or adjusting the size of the user input area based on the size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field.

Glaser teaches a user input area within a computer user interface (i.e. col. 2 line 10 et seq. of Glaser : " The system, in a preferred aspect, is adapted to receive user inputs for controlling the graphical user interface, which interface provides a document form display including at least one data field for text entry"), and that the input visually (i.e. col.2 line 2 et seq. of Glaser : " Preferably, this control capability would be provided in a visually apparent manner, indicating to the user that data fields can be expanded and suggesting the manner in which that expansion can be implemented") indicates (i.e. col. 5 line 66 et seq. of Glaser : " The size of the resizing rectangle 149 indicates to the user the change in size of the data entry field which is being expanded or contracted") to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations (i.e. col. 8 line 60 et seq. of Glaser : " and re-sizing means responsive to said pointer positioned at said predetermined location and to a re-sizing control input from said cursor control device for dynamically changing the size of said data field during text entry to accommodate additional text entry into said database"), adjusting the size of the user input area (i.e. col. 2 line 37 et seq. of Glaser : "2 illustrates a menu-driven graphical user interface display generated in accordance with the present invention including a structured form document with data entry fields and associated data descriptors, wherein one of the data entry fields is expandable in response to a

user control input"), displaying the adjusted user input area having a new size that visually indicates to the user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of a remaining number of the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. col. 2 line 22 et seq. of Glaser : " Advantageously, the system permits the customization of data input and output by enabling the user to exercise complete control over the size of the data field"; col. 2 line 17 et seq. of Glaser : " The system is responsive to a second control input from a user for conducting a resizing operation to vary the size of the data field"). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the adjustable and visual input area of Glaser with the user input area of Inaki to create "a preferred system" which "would be able to tailor the form by dynamically expanding one or more data entry fields" (col. 1 line 64 et seq. of Glaser).

Wallack teaches adjusting the size of the user input area based on the size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field (i.e. steps 200 and 230 in FIG. 2 et seq. of Wallack). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine adjusting the size of user input as taught by Wallack into the user input area as taught by Inaki and modified by Glaser. Said artisan would have been motivated to combine Wallack into Inaki in order to auto size the field according to textual data received in the fields in a computer-generated form (i.e. col. 2 line 23 et seq. of Wallack).

Regarding dependent claim 14, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 13, wherein the size of the user input

area after displaying the input character equals the width of the character plus the remaining number of the specified number of characters times a selected character width (i.e. S73, S74 et seq. of Inaki; see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size and compare field, also note cursor and font sizes in FIGS. 11K and 11Q of Inaki).

Regarding dependent claim 15, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 13, wherein the remaining number of the specified number of characters is received in the user input area, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the processor to: display the user input area with a size equal to a cumulative width of the displayed specified number of characters in the user input area (i.e. S73, S74 et seq. of Inaki; see also col. 13 lines 54-58 and FIG. 12 of Inaki: data length and cursor type determine character size, note return to step 1 after each "key input").

Regarding dependent claim 16, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 13, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the processor to: adjust the size of the user input area differently (i.e. COMPARE WIDTHS S200 et seq. of Inaki) after receiving a second last character of the specified number of characters (i.e. character before "Δ" (end mark) col. 17 line 40 et seq. of Inaki, character in "NO" option from S199, previous to last character in step 22).

Regarding dependent claim 17, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 16, further comprising instructions that

when executed cause the processor to: adjust the user input area (i.e. COMPARE WIDTHS S200 et seq. of Inaki), after receiving the second last character (i.e. character before "Δ" (end mark) col. 17 line 40 et seq. of Inaki, character in "NO" option from S199, previous to last character in step 22), to a size that is equal to a width of all characters displayed in the user input area plus a selected character width (i.e. BLOCK WIDTH = FIELD WIDTH branch from S200 et seq. of Inaki, see also CURSOR TYPE listing in FIG. 12).

Regarding dependent claim 18, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 17, wherein the selected character width is a maximum width of characters (i.e. BLOCK WIDTH = FIELD WIDTH branch from S200 et seq. of Inaki, see also CURSOR TYPE listing in FIG. 12 especially QUADRUPLE FULL-SIZE and cursor size in FIGS. 11P and 11Q).

Regarding dependent claim 19, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 13, wherein the new size that visually indicates to the user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of a remaining number of the specified number of characters is a different size than the size that visually indicates to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of the specified number of characters (i.e. col. 2 line 22 et seq. of Glaser : " Advantageously, the system permits the customization of data input and output by enabling the user to exercise complete control over the size of the data field"; col. 2 line 17 et seq. of Glaser : " The system is responsive to a

second control input from a user for conducting a resizing operation to vary the size of the data field").

Regarding dependent claim 20, Inaki, in combination with Glaser and Wallack, teaches the computer program product of claim 13, wherein the new size that visually indicates to the user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of a remaining number of the specified number of characters is the same size as the size that visually indicates to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of the specified number of characters (i.e. col. 2 line 22 et seq. of Glaser : " Advantageously, the system permits the customization of data input and output by enabling the user to exercise complete control over the size of the data field"; col. 2 line 17 et seq. of Glaser : " The system is responsive to a second control input from a user for conducting a resizing operation to vary the size of the data field").

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chris Watt whose telephone number is (571) 270-1046. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30-4:00 Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2174

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chris A. Watt/

April 23, 2007

CAW

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100